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I didn't have time to visit the National Museum as well (although it is on the maps). However, as I chatted to a bank clerk one day he asked what I did in England. The answer was followed by considerable mirth amongst all of the bank staff. "After all," they said "it is so funny that you came all this way to see our museum and it only has replicas. You have all the real things in England!" What can you say?

Steve Garland

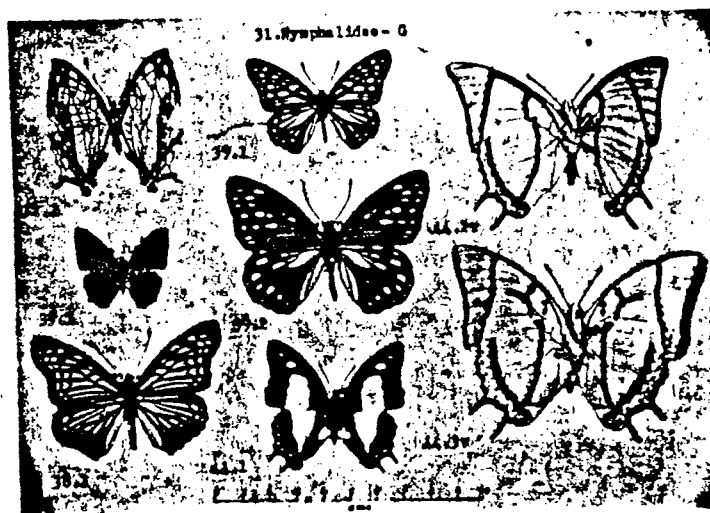
Field Guide to Nepal's Butterflies, by C. Smith
Natural History Museum Bulletin 2.

Natural History Museum. Institute of Science and Technology, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal. Price 63.00 Nepalese Rupees. 1981 (Limited edition of 500). Tribhuvan University Press

This book contains over 200 genera and about 480 species of butterfly. There are keys to families and subfamilies and, in the case of Papilionidae and Pieridae, down to genera. Each species is listed with notes on distribution, flight period and altitudinal range, together with useful notes concerning identification. Small black and white photographs of a selection of species are included.

A basic guide, on a similar level to many regional guides in Britain. However, it was an adequate guide for most butterflies which we observed in November and is the best available (only available) guide for Nepal.

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*G.34.1 *Pseudergolis wedah* (Tabby) This butterfly does not appear to be related, but has similar habits. It could be confused with the Ariadne (G.22) but for its discal row of black spots (and stronger flight). It flies in mainly jungle habitat, 3400- 6600 ft. from April to June.

*G.35.1 *Apatura ambica* (Indian Purple Emperor) The male of this very rare butterfly has a beautiful purple sheen. Only one record is known- from E. Nepal, 3600 ft. in May.

*G.36.1 *Rohana parisatis* (Black Prince) This tiny butterfly darts rapidly around rocks by the streams in East Nepal.